Approved For Release 2009/07/23 : CIA-RDP82-00047R000100350003-8 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT DATE DISTR. 16 Apr 52 25X1 COUNTRY Czechoslovakia NO. OF PAGES 2 SUBJECT Transportation NO. OF ENCLS. PLACE ACQUIRED DATE SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1 REPORT NO. ACQUIRED DATE OF IM THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION 25X1 Until 1950, Czechoslovakia used mostly Dutch and Belgian shipping companies, expecially in trade with overseas countries. Since 1950, however, Polish ships have been used wherever possible. Czechoslovakia has its own program for building ocean-25X1 going ships. The first to be built under this program, "Republika," about 12,000 GRT, was put into service recently according to a broadcast of Radio Prague. The Czechs preferred to ship international air freight by KLM (Royal Dutch Airlines). Considerable shipping in European trade is done through German shipping and forwarding companies. All shipping done through German, Dutch and Belgian facilities was calculated in Czech crowns. Payments for services were included in the trade and payment agreements with the respective countries. Branch offices abroad of Czech Metrans did not do much business on the company's own account, but were used more for finding and supervising suitable transportation facilities. 25X1 25X1 centage of accidents on railroads appears to have increased considerably in the past few years. At the present time, the first task of the rail transportation system is to increase the capacity of the west-east lines, and to speed the turnaround of freight cars. It is generally believed that the Czech railway system is far more efficient that the Soviet.

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